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RED ARMY PENETRATES REICH CAPITAL SUBURBS

Spearheads Attacking From Northeast, East, South in Encirclement Move

Domei

BERLIN, April 21.—Two prongs of the pincer with which the Soviet command is aiming to encircle Berlin are closing gradually on the capital, and their spearheads have already pushed in northeast, east and south to the outlying suburbs of Berlin, frontline reports said today.

Against numerically far superior Soviet formations, the Germans are at present engaged in fierce defensive fighting at Bernau, Straussberg, Fuerstenwalde, Koenigswusterhausen and Zossen. Soviet progress is slowest direct east and northeast of Berlin.

It appears that the Red Army is no longer attempting to make a frontal attack against the capital, but is sending its main force into the two encircling prongs.

Contact Reported With Soviets

Domei

ZURICH, April 21.—A Reuter dispatch from Paris said that American patrols had made contact with the Soviet forces in the Dresden sector. The report, however, was not confirmed by anti-Axis authorities.

Huge Force Being Used

Domei

ZURICH, April 21.—Soviet forces closing in on Berlin in a crescent-shaped wave of steel are composed of tank army groups, formed by 1,500,000 men, German frontline reports said today.

One report reaching here today said that Soviet tank vanguards driving for the German capital from the northeast had tonight reached a point five kilometers from the center of Berlin, after overcoming bitter German resistance. This report, however, was not confirmed.

German reports said that furious fighting was going on at Koenigswusterhausen, in the southeastern suburbs of Berlin where the German long wave radio station is located.

Meanwhile, reports placed the forces of Marshal Gregory Konev, who had avalanched to the Saxony border, at Kamenz and Bautzen, 33 kilometers northeast of Dresden.

SOVIETS MAKE 2 NEW ARMS

Both Weapons Developed for Possible Showdown With U.S.

Domei

BERLIN, April 21.—The Red Army has developed two new weapons to be used in future fighting, according to statements made by Soviet war prisoners. The first is a giant breakthrough tank which carries besides an 18-centimeter caliber gun, a barrel grenade projector of equal caliber. The second weapon is the so-called "Stalinski-Patephon", a new automatic weapon firing 325 shots per minute.

According to captured members of the 49th Soviet infantry division, it is held unlikely that the new weapons would be employed on a larger scale in the fight against Germany, but that they were being tried out for a possible showdown between the Soviet Union and the United States.

Study Soviet Tanks

Domei

ZURICH, April 21.—American troops on the Western Front were cautioned today that a link-up with the Red Army was imminent and they were instructed to study an elaborate poster illustrated with silhouettes and photographs of Soviet tanks, according to frontline reports. The poster explained that some Soviet tanks resembled those of the Germans and advised the soldiers to look twice before they shoot.

2 YANKS MADE GENERALS

Patton and Hodges Promoted; Snyder Given New Post

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 21.—President Harry Truman last week nominated George Smith Patton, Jr. and Courtney Hodges to be full generals, according to a Washington dispatch. Patton commands the 3rd army and Hodges the 1st army in the fighting in Germany.

The President's elevation of Patton and Hodges to four-star rank was in line with the suggestions made by the Senate Military Affairs Committee that the active commanders be given recognition. Some members of Congress had complained because the two were not included in the recent promotion lists.

The President also today appointed John W. Snyder to be the Federal Loan Administrator. Snyder, now the Vice-President of the First National Bank of St. Louis, succeeds Fred M. Vinson who was made Director of the U.S. Mobilization and Reconversing after James F. Byrnes gave up that post.

'Frisco Hotels Short Of Food as Delegates For Parley Pour In

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 21.—As delegates and their secretariat continued to arrive in San Francisco in ever-increasing numbers, the Hotel Employers Association of San Francisco published an advertisement in the newspapers announcing that they were "without adequate food supplies" and that "no relief is in sight," according to a dispatch from the city. The Association said, "We regret that such a situation exists in the city noted for fine hotels, but we have exhausted all our resources to meet the present crisis." The report added that the hotels blamed the OPA (Office of Price Administration) ceiling prices on point free foods such as poultry and the refusal of the OPA to issue additional ration points within the framework of the present regulations.

ROARING OF GUNS HEARD BY CITIZENS OF BERLIN

Travel, Use of Gas, Electricity Restricted; Food, Drinking Water Main Problems

Domei

BERLIN, April 21.—Walter Felchner, Transocean correspondent, disclosed today that for the first time in 100 years the thunder of cannons can be heard in the heart of Berlin today. Berliners are asking whether the capital may yet be classed as an open town so that the population which still numbers 3,000,000 may thus be spared the ordeal of the fiercest street-fighting.

Felchner said that should Berlin be declared an open city, it would be the first one in Germany in this war, because, beginning with the city of Aachen, every town has been defended.

Felchner said that on Friday afternoon Berlin still presented a half-way normal aspect. On Saturday morning, however, the scene changed perceptibly. An extreme shortage of coal necessitated the cutting down of public traffic to the barest minimum. The cutting off of the electric power supply created serious difficulties especially the inability to listen to information regarding the air raids. The order issued today forbids the use of electric power and gas for cooking or lighting purposes in the households.

While the population is naturally concerned about their own existence, it still exhibits most lively interest in the developments on the nearby front. Every morsel of news spreads like wildfire and already this morning the whole of Berlin knew that German tanks had moved along the main arteries of the city eastward to the Eastern Front.

Mass-Feeding Planned

"If the people of Berlin are concerned about anything, it is food," Felchner declared. He said that in many years of heavy air raids on the city they have become accustomed to this side of the war and are already reckoning with major bombardments of Berlin.

But what about the food situation if all approaches to the capital are cut is the question the people are asking. Field kitchens are lined up already in several public squares from which it might be inferred that mass-feeding is being planned. Authoritative quarters, however, claim that sufficient food is ready for a possible siege of no little duration.

The second urgent question with which the people of Berlin are occupied is that of water supply for if the electric power is cut off completely, there will be no more water. Every person has already been informed as to the nearest well or pump to get water and posters have already been put up at various points of the river Spree flowing through Berlin that its water can be drunk only after it has been boiled.

U.S. Rubber Workers Strike

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 21.—More than 16,000 employes were idle today at the B. F. Goodrich Company plant in Akron, Ohio, according to a report from that city. The strike at one of America's greatest rubber companies began yesterday when three tube workers joined by 200 others refused to work in protest against a new wage rate schedule, the company spokesmen reported today, who added that lack of tubes for both military and civilian tire production has "completely shut down" the plant.

MOLOTOV DUE TO REACH WASHINGTON ON SUNDAY

Polish Question Expected to Be Thrashed Out With Soviet Foreign Commissar

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 21.—It has been authoritatively learned that Vyacheslav Molotov, Soviet Foreign Commissar, is due to arrive in Washington on Sunday morning, according to a Washington dispatch. The vital pre-conference meeting of the "big four" foreign ministers is expected to begin almost as soon as Molotov arrives.

Interest in Washington centers on the expected arrival of Vyacheslav Molotov, Soviet Foreign Commissar, according to another dispatch. Molotov's arrival will provide the foreign ministers of the "big three" powers with a new chance to discuss their policy on the thorny Polish question. The discussions will be preliminary to the San Francisco Conference.

Meanwhile, another Washington dispatch said that Anthony Eden, the British Foreign Secretary, conferred in Washington today with Edward Stettinius, U.S. State Secretary. After their talk, Eden said, "We are in complete agreement on all points." It is believed the two discussed the position they will take on the difficult Polish problem in their coming meeting with Soviet Foreign Commissar Molotov.

First Week Program Set

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 21.—The first plenary session of the United Nations Conference in San Francisco will be held Wednesday afternoon, April 25, when the delegates will hear a radio address by President Harry S. Truman, it was announced today as plans for the first week of the meeting was drawn up, according to a San Francisco dispatch.

The executive committee composed of the chairman of various delegations will convene Wednesday morning when the American delegate will submit its proposal for the organization of the conference, the announcement said.

The first plenary session is scheduled to begin late Wednesday afternoon. The second plenary session on Thursday morning will draft arrangements for the conference.

Four commissions will meet Friday to select the chairmen and secretaries and plan its program and the UNCIO (United Nations Conference on International Organization) delegates will start actual work on Monday.

Outline of the American proposed conference structure lists the following four major commissions. (1). General Provisions, with a committee on the preamble, purposes and principles and a committee on membership. (2). General Assembly, with four committees—structures and procedures, political and security functions, economic and social cooperation, and trusteeship systems. (3). Security Council, with four committees—structures and procedures, peaceful settlements, enforcement arrangements, and regional arrangements. (4). Commission to handle judicial organization, with committees on international court of justice and on legal problems.

Small Nations Supported

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 20. — Governor Thomas Dewey of New York, declared last night that 'disagreement had arisen' over representation and voting rights at the San Francisco Conference, in an address delivered at the opening of an exhibition in New York, according to a New York dispatch.

"The United Nations, in setting up working arrangements for peace at the San Francisco Conference, must emphasize the importance of small nations," declared Governor Dewey. "The First and Second World Wars began with small nations as the victims. As victory approaches it becomes even more urgent to make certain that victory will not mean mere respite but lasting peace with justice for all."

Mrs. F. D. R. Leaves Capital

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 21.—Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of the late President, and her family bade goodbye to the White House late yesterday after living there for the better part of 12 years, according to a Washington dispatch. The former First Lady accompanied by her two sons Colonel James Roosevelt and Brigadier General Elliott Roosevelt, their wives, her daughter Mrs. Anna Roosevelt Boettiger, her daughter-in-law, Mrs. John Roosevelt, and her secretary Miss Malvina Thompson, took the train for New York. She was expected to spend the night in her New York apartment and thence proceed to the Roosevelt home at Hyde Park.

BRITISH CRITICS BLASTED

Soviet Paper Defends Moscow's Policies in East Europe

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 21.—The Soviet paper War and Working Class, today challenged the British critics of the Soviet policy in eastern Europe and suggested that Britain re-examine her own practices in Greece and the colonies, according to a Moscow dispatch.

"It would have been hopeless to demand the setting up of democracies in European countries on the British and American patterns," the paper said in defending the type of governments set up in Poland, Finland, Rumania and Bulgaria after the Germans had evacuated.

In an obvious reference to the British critics, the Soviet paper suggested that the people concerned in the restoration of democracy in Europe should turn their "zeal" to the colonial countries where the "populations haven't even smelled democracy."

MORE AID FOR SOVIETS ASSURED BY NEW PACT

U.S., Britain, Canada, Soviet Sign Protocol After Much Wrangling

Domei

LISBON, April 20.—After protracted wrangling between the United States and the Soviet Union, a protocol was signed by representatives of the United States, Britain, Canada and the Soviet Union at Ottawa in Canada on April 17 regarding materials to be supplied by the former three nations to the latter for the strengthening of its war power, the U.S. State Department communique revealed today, according to a Washington dispatch.

The protocol, which was the fourth such agreement concluded among the four nations, will be effective from July 1, 1944 to June 30, 1945, the communique said. The communique continued in effect. "The principle of the agreement which is the supplying of weapons to the Soviet Union has been carried out since June 30, last year, when the old agreement expired.

"In the new agreement, the Soviet Union again promised to supply materials and labor necessary for war prosecution to the United States, Britain and Canada in return for the assistance she receives from them. The agreement concerning the supplying of American, British and Canadian weapons to the Soviet Union had expired last June, but principally because of disagreement between the United States and the Soviet Union, a new agreement had not been concluded until now."

Lend-Lease Aid to Moscow

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 21.—Leo T. Crowley, U.S. Foreign Economic Administrator, in a statement today showed that up to the end of February, the Soviet Union had received nearly 32 per cent of all United States supplies transferred to their Allies under the Lend-Lease act, according to a Washington dispatch.

From October 1941 to February 1945, the statement said, more than 16,250,000 tons of war materials, other industrial materials and equipment, food and agricultural products were shipped to the Soviet Union not including the thousands of Lend-Lease aircraft that were flown to Russia under their own power.

Dollar value of the supplies transferred by the United States to the Soviet Union up to and including February this year is $8,225,000,000. The United States had sent to the Soviet Union under the Lend-Lease 13,000 planes—"largest total to any ally."

U.S. DRAFT ACT UNSETTLED

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 21.—President Harry S. Truman, declaring that he wants the Selective Service Act, which is expiring on May 15, extended five years, has now intervened in the controversy which has been going on for some time regarding this act, according to a Washington report.

While the Selective Service Act has already passed the House of Representatives, it has still to pass the Senate. Several Senators have expressed opposition to President Truman's stand, and considerable flurry is expected.

Many Congressmen have asked the Draft Board to see that no soldier under 19 years of age is sent overseas without six months training. Senator O'Daniel, Democrat of Texas, has asked that a year's training be given all draftees under 20 before they are sent overseas. The army and the navy on the other hand maintain that the present policy is adequate; the men, they claim, are sufficiently well trained, as otherwise they would hamper war efforts.

The army points out that even if young soldiers are sent out to combat duty before they receive six months training, still they would not have to take unnecessary risks.

The navy's stand is that any training restrictions would be disastrous because of shortage of sailing training on ships which cannot leave the continental waters of the United States.

PRINCESS KUNI MARRIES

Wedding to Count Tatsuta Takes Place on Sunday

Her Imperial Highness Princess Masako Kuni, first daughter of His Imperial Highness Prince Asaakira Kuni, was married to Lieutenant Count Norihiko Tatsuta, third son of the late His Imperial Highness Prince Taka Kuni, on Sunday.

Felicitating this auspicious event, Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress and Empress Dowager granted gifts to the House of Kuni and Her Imperial Highness Princess Masako Kuni.

BIG-SCALE SHIFTS MADE OF PREFECTURAL HEADS

Home Minister Abe Carries Out Wide Changes to Cope With Present Situation

A major shift of local governors and other provincial officials was announced on Saturday, following deliberative study by Home Minister Motoki Abe relative to the important roles those local officials are required to play under the present circumstances.

Features of the present gubernatorial shifts involve the promotion to the Shinnin rank of seven local governors who are presidents of the Administrative Councils; simplification of the central administrative structure including the Home Ministry Air Defense General Headquarters. In this gubernatorial change, 16 governors including five who have been presidents of the Administrative Council, 11 other local governors, and 20 provincial officials of high rank have quit their posts. In the meantime, nine officials were promoted to become governors, while 34 governors were transferred to new posts.

For instance, Kenichi Kumagaya, Vice-Director of the Air Defense General Headquarters has been appointed Governor of Hokkaido (Shinnin rank); Yeiji Yasui, formerly Home Minister and Education Minister, has been appointed Governor of Osaka Prefecture (Shinnin rank); Tadayoshi Obata, ex-Director-in-Chief of the Industrial Patriotic Association, has been appointed Governor of Aichi Prefecture (Shinnin rank); Tsurukichi Maruyama, Governor of Miyagi Prefecture, has been promoted to Shinnin rank; Isei Otsuka, M.P., has been appointed Governor of Hiroshima Prefecture (Shinnin rank); Masayoshi Kimura, M.P., has been appointed Governor of Kagawa Prefecture (Shinnin rank) while Kuichiro Totsuka, Governor of Fukuoka Prefecture, has been promoted to Shinnin rank.

The seven prefectural governors stated above, who are presidents of the Administrative Councils concerned, have been concurrently appointed officials and superintendents of the Munitions Ministry and Chiefs of the Marine Transportations Bureaus in the respective prefectures. Governors Kumagaya, Yasui, and Totsuka, in addition to various posts stated above, have been appointed Chief Judges of the Marine Courts of Inquiry of the respective prefectures. Governor Totsuka of Fukuoka Prefecture, especially, has been given the additional post as Chief of the Local Mining Bureau. In connection with the present gubernatorial shifts, Takeo Hotta, Chief of the Business Bureau of the Air Defense General Headquarters, has been appointed Chief of the Land Bureau of the Home Ministry and Chief of the Planning Bureau of the Air Defense General Headquarters; Hiroo Oshima, Governor of Aomori Prefecture, has been appointed Chief of the Superintendence Bureau of the Home Ministry; Hisashi Imai, Governor of Ibaragi Prefecture, has been named as Vice-Director of the Air Defense General Headquarters while Noboru Saito, Chief of the Students Training Department of the Welfare Ministry, has been appointed Chief of the General Affairs Bureau of the Air Defense General Headquarters.

YANKEES ON MINDANAO SUFFER BIG CASUALTIES

Over 4,700 Accounted Since Landing; 55 Planes and 49 Tanks Also Blasted

By Courtesy of the Press Section

Japanese Air and Navy Units on Mindanao Island are continuing to counterattack the U.S. troops who landed on Zamboanga on March 9. The Japanese have accounted for more than 4,700 enemy troops since the landing up to the present. They also shot down or damaged more than 55 planes and blew up 49 tanks.

30 Raiders Attack Taiwan

Domei

TAIHOKU, April 21.—More than 20 enemy bombers and nearly 10 fighters, all based at the Philippines, attacked the Tainan and Takao areas in Taiwan during daytime yesterday. The raiders bombed military establishments and the neighborhood of Tainan. They fled to the south shortly after 3 p.m.

3 Chinese Ships Sunk

Domei

HONGKONG, April 20.—Several B-24's of the China-based American air force, sometime at 1:30 p.m. on April 17, directed low-level machine-gun attacks against one ship and two other boats belonging to a certain Chinese company, plying in the waters east of Tsingshan, northwest of Kowloon and sank them. As a result of the attack, a considerable number of the Chinese crew was either killed or wounded.

4 Saigon Raiders Downed

Domei

SAIGON, April 19.—Eight B-24's raided the Saigon area in two formations from about 3:30 p.m. today. One of the Japanese Air Unit commanders, intercepting the raiders, chased them over the sea and brought down four of them.

Enemy Planes Drop Mines

Domei

CANTON, April 19.—China-based B-24's and B-25's, appearing singly and in two's, are dropping mines off the South China coast. It is clear that the enemy is trying through such means to sever our routes between Japan Proper and the South.

REPULSED AT LAOHOKOW

Japanese Frustrate Enemy Attempt To Recapture City

By I. ISHIZAKI
Of the Military Press Corps

LAOHOKOW, April 21.—Enemy attempts to recover this city have been completely frustrated by the Japanese Forces. This city, which fell after only 10 days of battle, was surrounded on the night of April 13, by 2,000 enemy troops who crossed the Han River. Fierce fighting raged for two days until the enemy was repulsed.

After the fall of this city, the commander-in-chief of the enemy's fifth war zone ordered his remnants to reseize the stronghold. In the meantime, the 55th and 68th armies were also ordered by Chiang Kai-shek to coordinate their activities with the effort at reseizure. These forces strove for the severance of the Lungtung road, which resulted in the repulsed counterassault.

Comment on Finnish Cabinet

Domei

STOCKHOLM, April 21.—The Finnish middle class is not concealing its disappointment with the new Paasikivi Cabinet, while leftist circles seem satisfied, reports the Expressen from Helsinki. The middle-class papers, although admitting that the Government has been given a good chance to safeguard the country's foreign political interests, feel all the more alarmed as regards domestic political developments. The Finnish paper Uusi Suomi feels alarmed regarding the fact that Communists have been given such key posts as those of the Home Minister and of the Education Minister.

Dubose Given Post

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 19.—Laurance T. Dubose has assumed the duties of Chief of Staff to Admiral Harold R. Stark, Commander of the U.S. Fleet in European Waters, it was announced today, according to a London dispatch. Dubose also becomes the American naval attache in London, succeeding Rear Admiral George G. Wilson. A native of Washington, Dubose, aged 51, commanded a division of cruisers in the Pacific until recently.

U.S. Destroyer Sunk Near Kerama Isles By Nippon Air Units

Domei

CENTRAL PACIFIC BASE, April 21.—Japanese Air Units at dawn today instantaneously sank an enemy destroyer in an attack against a group of enemy vessels in waters near the Kerama Islands. Separate Japanese Air Units at the same time attacked enemy positions on the main Okinawa Island and caused several huge blazes at the Central Airfield.

SHIP LOSSES OFF OKINAWA ADMITTED BY NIMITZ' H.Q.

15 Warcraft Listed in Piecemeal Report—U.S. Navy Casualties Heavy

Domei

LISBON, April 21.—Admitting a part of the losses suffered by the United States navy in the Okinawa region, Nimitz' Headquarters today issued a list of the vessels sunk up to April 18.

Nimitz' Headquarters, according to a Guam dispatch, named the destroyers sunk as the Harrigan, Bush, Calhoon Abell and Pringle, each of 2,100 tons, and another unnamed warship of the same category.

Other vessels admitted as sunk were the Skylark and another minelayer, the corvette Dickerson, the gunboats PGM-18, LST-477, LCI-82, LCS-33 and LCT-86 and the ammunition transports Hobbs and Logan, each of the Victory type.

Navy Losses Heavy

Domei

LISBON, April 19.—For the first time in the Okinawa operations American naval casualties were greater than those of the army and marines, an AP dispatch from Washington said today.

The admission is taken as proof of the heavy losses suffered by the American navy at the hands of the Special Attack Corps and other Japanese Forces.

Another AP dispatch said that during the past several days the American invasion fleet of 1,400 vessels had been subjected to furious attacks by the Kamikaze Special Attack Corps and other Japanese Air Units.

NEW GUINEA BASE IS TAKEN

Japanese Units Attack Enemy's Sansapor Position and Occupy It

By Y. YAMAZAKI

ADVANCE BASE IN THE SOUTH, April 21.—Japanese Units operating on the northern coast of western New Guinea launched a furious attack against the enemy position at Sansapor, which constituted an advance base for Mal airfield, on the night of February 20, and completely occupied the enemy position. As a result of the reduction of Sansapor, the Japanese obtained the control of air over Mal airfield.

According to reports by Reconnaissance Units, fires were seen at several places on the runway of Mal airfield, and the enemy apparently deserted the airfield which was rendered useless. Futago airdrome is still sheltering several large planes, but it is not being used on any large scale.

Komamura Given Post

Lieutenant General Toshizo Komamura has been appointed director of the First Bureau of the General Aircraft Board in the Munitions Ministry, in succession to Major General Sadanori Harada, who has been transferred to another post. Lieutenant General Komamura, who comes from Niigata Prefecture, was recently promoted to the rank of lieutenant general. He was technical director of the Aviation Headquarters of the Army before his new appointment.

Heads Broadcasting Firm

Hachiro Ohashi, president of the International Electrical Communication Company and member of the House of Peers, was elected president of the Japan Broadcasting Corporation at a meeting of directors of the corporation, in succession to Hiroshi Shimomura, who was appointed Minister of State and president of the Board of Information. Mr. Ohashi served in the past as Vice-Minister of Communications, director of the Legislative Bureau, and chief secretary of the Cabinet.

JAPANESE FORCES STEM U.S. DRIVES IN OKINAWA

Airmen Attack Task Units, Also Bomb North and Central Airfields

Firmly holding their positions, the first line units of the Imperial Forces on the main Okinawa Island are fighting valiantly to frustrate every new drive of the superior American invasion forces which on April 21 started a stubborn assault on the various fronts extending from south of Tsuha to the north of Kakazu and through the northern sector of Gajoko to the main objective of striking the western coast of the island.

On and after April 21, the enemy offensive is being continued under cover of intense shelling and bombing attacks. Although a part of the Japanese first line was infiltrated by the Americans on April 20, the Japanese drove out all the attackers in a furious night counterattack on the same day.

Without respite Japanese Air Forces are strongly attacking the U.S. task forces around the main Okinawa Island while other airmen simultaneously are continuing to bomb the north and central airfields.

In the sea area around the Kerama Group, two pillars of flames were observed at 9:30 p.m. on April 20. Seven other flame pillars were also seen in the waters off Katena three and a half hours later. All through the same night, the roar of the enemy's heavy anti-aircraft guns was incessantly heard around the Kerama and the Minatogawa areas.

Units of the Imperial Air Force heavily bombed the north and central areas in a night attack on April 20 causing fires to break out at 14 places besides explosions at six places. Although the results have not been confirmed, our planes carried out a series of storming attacks against these airfields on the same night.

310 Enemy Planes Appear

Domei

CENTRAL PACIFIC BASE, April 21.—About 310 enemy planes raided the Southwestern Islands area yesterday. No great changes, however, were seen in the movement of the enemy fleet near the main island.

S. KYUSHU AGAIN RAIDED

B-29's Also Hit Oita Area—Carrier Planes Over Kagoshima

About 70 B-29 bombers based in the Mariana Islands made a three-hour morning raid over southern Kyushu from 6 a.m. on Sunday while another enemy air force, numbering about 30 in all, simultaneously raided the Oita area after passing over Cape Ashizuri and circling over the western part of Shikoku. All the raiders attempted to bomb Japanese airfields and other aerial facilities but damage caused to our side was slight, except for fires started at parts of the cities around the airfields.

At about the same time, units of the enemy carrier-borne planes, namely about 30 Grummans, penetrated the skies over the northern part of Kagoshima Prefecture but fled after circling over the southern sector of Kumamoto Prefecture.

New U.S. Envoy to Argentina

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 21.—Spruille Branden of New York, now U.S. Ambassador to Cuba, was nominated by President Truman last week to be Ambassador to Argentina, according to a Washington dispatch. Branden, if confirmed, will succeed Norman Armour, who was recalled in 1944 when diplomatic relations with the Farrell Government were suspended. Armour now is Ambassador to Spain.

Aiding Internees in India

The Committee for Counter Measures for Japanese in Enemy Countries has decided after consultation with the Japan Red Cross Society to send kombu (laminaria) and wakame (undaria pinnatifida) to the Japanese internees in India in response to their request.

Mississippi Flood Worsens

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, April 21.—Already 80,000 people have been made homeless and 19 Munitions plants forced to shut down as a result of the flooding of the Mississippi River, according to a Washington dispatch. The lower areas are now being threatened as the raging waters continue their work of havoc.

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The Plight of 'Liberated' Italy

The miserable plight of the so-called "liberated" countries of Europe is by now an old story. Everyone is familiar with the chaos, privation and suffering which have followed in the wake of the Anglo-American armies in every country they have occupied. But as increasing details become available, the first generalized picture is giving way to a more complete and clearer conception of just what the situation implies, and with it comes ever more forcibly the realization of the magnitude of the tragedy. The latest information to become available concerning Italy leaves no question as to the economic plight of that country. After having been enticed into submission through lavish Anglo-American promises of help and cooperation in the rehabilitation of her war-wrecked life, Italy now finds herself left in the lurch. Consequently her economic and financial condition has fallen into indescribable confusion, and unless prompt aid is forthcoming from American and British sources, the bankruptcy of Italy's national economy must be considered inevitable.

According to a report of the Finance Minister of the present Italian regime last year, the amount of expenditure which that regime was forced to make during that year amounted to no less than 76 billion lire while its revenues amounted to only 16 billion lire, leaving a deficit of 60 billion lire. There were at that time in addition government bonds and other debts amounting to 670 billion lire. The amount of currency in circulation at that time totalled 230 billion lire as compared with the 70 billion lire in circulation in 1942. Adding to this prodigious amount of currency in circulation, there is the further burden of military notes issued by the Anglo-American armies of occupation, estimated to be in the neighborhood of 40 billion lire.

Although the Finance Minister tried to claim that the growing volume of bond transactions and increases in the amount of bank deposits indicates the continuation of the Italian people's confidence in the lira, there can be no question that this greatly expanded currency circulation not only connotes a serious inflation but also an absence of channels for investment, which means that there has been a suspension of activities in the industrial world with all that it implies in the way of a cessation of production. In view of such a situation characterized by the lack of actual goods in proportion to the abundance of currency in circulation, the rehabilitation and repair of dwellings, increased salaries and pensions as well as labor relief funds, all of which have been promised by the Government, can only lead to a further intensification of the inflation with no other effect than that of merely increasing the drain on the already dangerously overdrawn treasury. The Government must therefore obviously receive some sort of material assistance from Anglo-American sources and hopes that it will be forthcoming, but nothing in fact is in sight.

In this connection, by far the most important matter is the economic clause of the armistice terms which imposed upon Italy the burden of defraying the cost of the goods and services commandeered for the support of the Anglo-American armies of occupation. As a means of partial alleviation, President Roosevelt signified his consent last October to the extension of credit amounting to 200 million lire in military notes, while the chairman of the Allied Control Commission for Italy also announced that new measures for economic relief were under consideration between the United States and Britain. But such measures are bound to prove illusory, for the mere proffer of more military notes will only aggravate the inflation as long as Italian labor and materials are all pre-empted to meet the demands of the armies of occupation. In fact the effect is to defeat the efforts which the Bonomi regime has been making since January to curb the inflation through contraction of the issue of paper currency. For this reason the Bonomi regime has been insisting that the Anglo-American authorities pay for the goods and services commandeered by their armies in pounds and dollars instead of in military notes.

However, even if payment should be made in pounds and dollars instead of in lira military script, the real problem would yet remain unsolved, for the crux of the matter lies not in the matter of currency but in the shortage of goods. According to the report of the Italian Commerce Minister in January, practically all of Italy's industrial facilities have been reduced to a standstill. Except for a few food processing establishments and repair shops operated by the Anglo-American forces for their own use, the industrial plants of Italy are producing almost nothing. The Anglo-American military forces have been trying to restore electric power to its former condition, but it is expected that the restoration will be only 50 per cent complete by the end of the present year. Meager beginnings have been made in the restoration of the cement and glass industries. Railway transport capacity stands at about 20 per cent of its former level, while shipping has been reduced to one-seventh of its prewar capacity. Even these sadly decimated facilities are in the hands of the Anglo-American troops, so that the only transportation facility available for the Italians themselves is to be found in motor trucks which number about 10,000. But the cost of a truck has soared from the prewar price of about 20,000 lire to the present prohibitive price of 1,000,000 to even 1,500,000 lire, and even then there are no more available.

As for her agriculture which used to provide Italy with 90 per cent of her total food requirements before the war, the present condition is so precarious to make the problem of food the most critical problem confronting the population. Most of the cattle which were used for draft purposes in the cultivation of the fields have disappeared as the result of the warfare which has raged over the countryside, while the importation of fertilizers has been suspended for the past three years. Many of the fields are still strewn with land mines planted by the combatting armies, preventing extensive areas from being immediately put back into cultivation. The stock of seeds has fallen low while great difficulty exists in procuring a new supply from outside sources. So difficult has agriculture become that Italy is faced with the necessity of promptly importing a large quantity of wheat if even the present scanty ration of 200 grams of bread per individual daily is to be kept up.

In view of the great scarcity of food, black market transactions have become rampant, and the most common daily necessities are selling at forty and fifty times the prewar prices. The Covernment is too weak to exercise any effective economic control. By dint of expending 15 billion lire annually in subsidies, the Government has so far succeeded in keeping the price of rationed bread at 5 lire per kilogram, but if this subsidy should be removed, a not unlikely contingency in view of the Government's precarious financial condition, the price of bread will immediately jump to 14 lire per kilogram. The left wing political factions have been making much of this dangerous state of affairs to protest against the economic policies of the Government. With the minimum monthly expense for maintaining a family with three children estimated at between 8,000 and 10,000 lire, the country is seething with apprehension and unrest.

These facts shedding light upon the plight of the Italian people furnish a dramatic proof of the tragic error of Italy in having connived at the invasion of the Anglo-American armies. They provide an awful object lesson of the mistake of relying upon the help and mercy of others instead of trusting to one's own efforts for salvation however difficult the obstacles may seem. Most of all they emphasize the utter folly of placing confidence in the lying promises of the Anglo-American propagandists who talk of "liberation" but who bring oppression vastly more terrible than any condition which may have previously existed. Such is to be expected, for despite their insincere professions, the Anglo-Americans are motivated by nothing other than a lust to subordinate the world to their program of complete domination.

INTERFLOW OF CULTURES

By JAPONICUS

III

The Joint Declaration places Japan under a rather delicate obligation to collaborate in the enhancement of the cultures of East Asian nations. Some seem to be inclined to think that the Japanese culture has little to contribute to the cultures of other nations, inasmuch as her own civilization consists largely or importations—in ancient times from China and in the immediate past from the West, and inasmuch as its indigenous elements are too deeply tinged with the life of an island race. This, we submit, is a view which betrays an erroneous concept of international cultural intercourse. Those who entertain such a view may perhaps be thinking of Occidental cultures transplanted on the European and American colonies in Southeastern Asia as typical of such intercourse. Like the fox's skin sewed to the lion's, Western culture has in those areas been transposed on to the native culture. The culture transplanted may indeed be imitated by the natives, who may nevertheless remain asses in a lion's skin. It may contribute to the formation of a mosaic style of culture but it does not become flesh and blood of the indigenous culture. Surely, this is not international cultural intercourse as it should be. Even in those days of an influx of Chinese culture, Japan did not allow, as in white colonies in Southeastern Asia, a "foreign country" established within her realm, nor allow, as in American cities, a "China-town" to continue to exist. As for the Japanese themselves they did not adopt without modifications forms of Continental culture to replace their own. Indeed, their daily life was not affected by Chinese customs to the extent that contemporary Japanese life has been westernized. The Chinese costumes, chairs and tables did not replace or modify the native clothing or their way of sitting. The Continental culture merely served as a nutriment to invigorate the native culture. Through the mating of the native and continental cultures the former's dominant traits were transmitted to its progeny—the culture of Old Japan. This, in our opinion, is a type of international cultural intercourse as it should be.

Japan's contribution to the enhancement of the cultures of East Asian nations should consist in promoting this type of cultural intercourse. It would not do, for instance, that the Japanese culture simply be substituted for the western, domineering like conquerors over the native culture. For no culture, however superior, is entitled to tyrannize over other cultures.

Some of the southern peoples in Greater East Asia have undergone experiences of international cultural contact through influxes of Indian and Saracen cultures in days gone by and of Occidental civilization in modern times. Such cultural influxes, however, followed political invasions and conquests. It was natural, therefore, that they engendered in the recipient nation a tendency to consciously or unconsciously adopt an exclusionist attitude toward alien cultures. On the Chinese Continent itself races are still found which detest any contact with the dominant Chinese civilization.

Cultural exclusionism and apish imitativeness are the two faces of an inferiority complex. When a nation is incapable, so to speak, of cooking, masticating and digesting an alien culture, she is apt simply to ignore it, or if she is tempted to take, it she knows no other way than to gulp it down. Now the cultural collaboration which, Japan offers to East Asian nations should not consist in merely offering cultural materials simply to be swallowed whole. If a nation has any cultural history, there must lie latent somewhere in her cultural life certain dominant traits which can safeguard her cultural individuality. Japan's part must rather be that of a go-between joining the cultures of other East Asian nations in marriage with other cultures so that healthy and robust children inheriting those dominant traits may be born out of such wedlock.

Eastern nations must definitely bid adieu to cultural exclusionism and to the habit of mimicry giving rise to their mosaic culture. They should enter upon a new epoch. They must learn to grasp, intuitively as well as rationally, not the outward forms but the genius of other cultures. To take the case of Japan, they must understand that the basis of her moral culture is to be found in the supra-rational sentiment of reverence and inter-dependence based upon blood relationship which has subsisted between sovereign and subject ever since the establishment of the Japanese state. They must notice that such moral culture had existed for many centuries "without ever being expressed in words," and that its conceptional formulae and literary expressions in later ages have been determined by the conditions of each age. They must always keep in mind that the moral ideas of the Japanese nation have been a product of her national history, which should not be mechanically imitated by other nations. By tracing the historical processes and meditating on the rational basis of Japanese morals, other nations may derive there from copious and valuable suggestions for solving their own problems, namely, what moral ideas are to be developed out of their own history and in what conceptual formulae they may be couched.

As for Japan's material culture other nations need not, and in our opinion should not, follow the Japanese style of architecture, "consisting of paper and wood." But they may study with much profit the effect of Japanese architecture, which is suggestive of the moral virtues of simplicity and uprightness. The expression in architecture of the nature and character of the Japanese family may also be worthy of notice—e.g. how each room is so constructed so that the residence as a whole expresses the characteristic atmosphere of a Japanese family marked by strict discipline tempered by kindliness and unconventionality. They will gain an insight as to how a residential house can express national character. In this respect the Japanese architecture is surely more suggestive than the Occidental architecture. Viewed in this light we are confident that there are many elements in Japanese culture which can contribute to the enhancement of the cultures of other East Asian nations.

Many criticisms just and unjust, have been levelled against Japan's cultural undertakings abroad. The opinion seems to be entertained in some quarters in China that since the Japanese culture was largely received from China, it is presumptuous for the Japanese to conduct cultural undertakings in the very homeland of their own culture. This view is, in our opinion, also based on exactly the same erroneous concept of international cultural intercourse.

Mutual benefits can be derived by nations through an international interflow of cultures. For such purposes whether or not a culture is historically of foreign derivation is quite immaterial. For instance, the composition and coloring of the ukiyo-e of the later Tokugawa period are traceable to suggestions derived from western painting. This fact did not prevent western painters like Whistler, Gogh and De Goncourts from appreciating the ukiyo-e and adapting its composition and coloring into their own art. The Noh drama developed out of "gigaku" which was imported from the Continent. It may even have derived inspiration from the Yuan music, though conclusive evidence has not yet been forthcoming. Whatever its historic origin there can be no doubt that it evinces originality. The Noh drama and the contemporary Chinese drama have this in common that they are both symbolic dramatic arts. There are, however, great differences between the two. The symbolism of the Chinese drama is of a quick tempo, hurried, like its dialogue, and noisy, like its accompaniment. It relies for its effect on sensory stimulus. The symbolism of the Noh drama is, on the contrary, of a slow tempo, and like its lines, subdued, so much so indeed that it is in these respects almost unique among the dramatic arts of the world. It relies for its effect on intuitive contemplation rather than sensory stimulus. An appreciation of the Noh drama, will give a Chinese artist a good insight into the traits of Japanese art so different in character from the Chinese art. A firm grasp, intuitive and rational, of this dramatic art will surely broaden his artistic vision. And is this not the way to enhance the artistic culture of China?

We have referred to arts, but the same can be said of culture in general. In our opinion, there can be no other way for a nation to enhance its own culture than to enrich it through the assimilation of other cultures. And the life of a nation can never be invigorated without cultural enhancement. If so, it is for the best interests of a nation like China boasting a hoary civilization to be more alive to newer international cultural intercourse. Also it would do well for Chinese leaders to show a more intelligent attitude in regard to Sino-Japanese cultural collaboration.

(End)

Wrong Approach

The young lady walked up boldly to the woman she took to be the matron of the hospital. "May I see Lieutenant Heinkel, please?" she asked.

"May I ask who you are?"

"Certainly. I'm his sister."

"Well, well. I'm glad to meet you. I'm his mother."

Protection

"Fritz wants to borrow fire marks. Shall I let him have it."

"Certainly."

"Why?"

"Otherwise he will want it from me."

Narrow Escape

Henri: "I need five francs and don't know where to get it."

Jean: "I'm glad of that. I was afraid you'd try to get it from me."

FARMERS NOW PREPARED TO BEGIN SPRING SOWING

Will Produce 2,750,000,000 Kan of Potatoes; Community Cooperation Stressed

In the battle for securing national self-sufficiency in food supply, including the production of 2,750,000,000 kan of potatoes, the 6,000,000 agricultural families of Japan are beginning their "spring offensive," writes the Tokyo Shimbun. Agriculture depending upon the cycle of seasons, the important and at the same time, the difficult problem for the farmers is to carry out their work within the short period of a busy season.

The demand for agricultural products sharply increased on the outbreak of the war, but a great difficulty was created for agriculture by the drafting of rural manpower into the war services. Of the farming population, more than half of the active members are now women, while men between 20 and 45 years, who form the backbone of this population, are showing a decline, which, however, is being made good by the introduction of groups above and below these limits. The measures taken to overcome the shortage of farm hands are briefly as follows:

The first measure taken is the development of cooperation. In prewar days, surplus labor in rural districts was in fact one of the serious questions. The present shortage of farm hands, caused for the greatest part by the drafting of rural manpower into war services, is also due to the small-scale farming of the old type. As long as no cooperation is organized on a communal basis, it is inevitable, that more and more land should go out of cultivation, as manpower is drafted into war work.

The mechanization of Japanese agriculture is an impossible proposition at the present moment. Stress must, therefore, be laid on increasing production per unit area by organizing cooperation. In this sphere, the result registered for last year was highly encouraging for in 120,000 out of 190,000 villages, the total for the whole country, rice planting was carried out by cooperative effort, while the harvesting of barley was conducted by the same method in 80,000 village. As there is still much room for the development of cooperation, effort will be made this year in time for spring sowing not only to organize cooperation on the basis of neighborhood associations but also on the basis of individual villages.

The increased establishment of community kitchens and children's homes is another important measure in the same connection. In a village with no community kitchens and children's homes, one or two persons must be set aside by each family to take care of the children and cooking. Supposing this necessity has been eliminated by the establishment of a sufficient number of community kichens and children's homes, 70 or 80 persons may be released for agricultural work in a village of 50 families, even allowing for the personnel necessary for the new establishments.

The Agriculture and Commerce Ministry made efforts to double the number of community kitchens and children's homes last year, and the Ministry has decided as a program for the present year that such establishments be provided wherever possible or practicable. With the Government's assistance in materials and funds, preparations are being made to increase the number of community kitchens and children's home from the present level of 80,000 to double the number. A certain percentage of the evacuees who are unable to do farm work will be assigned as personnel for the new establishments.

The third measure adopted is the mobilization of students and evacuees for agricultural production. The authorities concerned were empowered last year to mobilize students of colleges, secondary, and primary schools for farm work throughout the year if necessary. In the harvest season, the students assisting in agriculture reached an impressive total. The number of students and evacuees sent into rural districts has since increased. As recently decided by the Government, group evacuees to be introduced into agriculture will be housed in temples, schools and similar buildings in or near the localities where they are to be employed. Apart from these evacuees, surplus workers in the areas hit by air raids will have to be sent back to their native localities to reinforce farm labor in case there is no immediate prospect of their reabsorption into factories.

The fourth measure is the efficient use of electric machines. In prewar days, 40 per cent of the total agricultural areas depended on petroleum machines for threshing purposes. Considering the present war situation, a change-over from petroleum machines to electric ones must be effected as quickly as possible. About 80,000 electric machines will be mobilized this summer for threshing barley. In addition, travelling corps with altogether 30,000 electric machines will also assist in the operation.

Japanese Thought and Character

Empires of Idea: America (1)

By SHUNKICHI AKIMOTO
Of the Nippon Times Staff

The first thought that comes to mind at the mention of America is that it is a wonderful big country. Indeed, it is a great empire made up of forty-eight semi-independent separate States, each in territory and population as large as or larger than some of the fair-sized nations of Europe or Asia. Its material wealth and resources are immense. The American coal fields are not only abundant but easily worked, their mining being surface or near-surface. To coal are added oil, natural gas and water-power. All the important metallic ores are abundantly deposited. Fertile plains and extensive forests constitute enormous sources of wealth, and a wide range of climate enables the Americans to raise crops of various character. Looking out on the two great oceans, the Atlantic and the Pacific, which are connected by the Panama Canal, the United States commands a very powerful strategic position in the world. She is a vast world in itself, so self-sufficing in all material resources that the 130 million American citizens, if they were doubled, trebled, or even quadrupled in numbers, could live a comfortable life though the rest of the world had disappeared from the face of the earth.

The population of America is only 17 persons to the square k.m., while the figures for other major countries are as follows: England 193; Germany 132; France 76; Italy 143; Japan 153; China 43. (Taken from the Asahi Nenkan for 1944). What is significant is that her population is virtually at a standstill and that her birthrate has fallen or has been rapidly declining for some years. In 1921 her birthrate stood at 24.3 per thousand, and thereafter it declined to a rapid rate:

25.	1912
22.6	1921-25
20.6	1926
20.6	1927
19.7	1928

Instead of amending this dwindling tendency of her population by increasing the number of foreign immigrants, the United States Government has restricted it to a minimum, permitting only 150,000 European immigrants to enter, while excluding all Asiatic people as "undesirable" under one pretext or another. The immigrants are bound sooner or later to be Americanized in all respects, including their natural fertility or infertility, so that the American population, if the present trend be allowed to continue, will before long be in the same predicament as that of Rome in its decadent period.

Great Mystery

What was the cause that has made such a country, endowed with more than enough material resources to feed all her citizens and more, enter into this double war waged in Europe and in Asia, in which she essentially has no concern at all? It is the greatest mystery of the twentieth century. It will tax to the utmost the brains of generations of historians, moralists, economists and indeed psychologists to solve it. It seems to me that the problem is more psychological than political or economic. In the final analysis it will be found due to the mentality of the vulgar rich man who, though rolling in riches, is haunted by a sense of insecurity lest some unforeseen calamity should reduce him to want and poverty. It is a familiar figure—the pitiable miser who, the more money he has, craves it all the more, the reverse of the honest workman-type who are content to earn their daily bread, trusting Providence to look after their morrow, and are happy. If this diagnosis is right, it will only prove that America, so rich materially, is poor in mind—in thought. It simplifies our task because we are concerned with America as an empire of thought, not of material power.

It is perhaps somewhat unfair to tax America on the score of her poverty of thought, or her low cultural status, because her history as an independent nation is less than two centuries old. To be exact, only 169 years have passed since her political independence was declared in 1776. (It was the year marking in Japan a later period of the Tenth Tokugawa Shogun Iyeharu, soon to be replaced by the Eleventh Shogun Iyenari who attained the zenith of Shogunal power and prestige, a position from which the Shogunate began rapidly to decline and decay. This will show to the Japanese reader how recent was the genesis of the American Republic.)

While length of time is not the only condition to assure cultural development for any nation, it is certain, if history teaches any lesson, that no nation has yet attained a perfect or all-round original civilization at express speed.

How many centuries had intervened between the tmie when the Jews invaded and conquered Palestine and the time when David began to sing his incomparable psalms, Solomon wrote his exquisite love poems and Isaiah prophesied? How many centuries had to pass since the mysterious barbarians from the north had subjugated the highly civilized Aegean people and, after annihilating them, imitated their culture, before their own poet Homer sang his Tale of Troy, or in the Perickan age Pythageras thought, Socrates talked, and Plato wrote? Or how many centuries were spent between the time when the Romans had mastered the bodies of the Greeks and the time when they bowed before the latter's minds, developing their own tragedies and jurisprudence? And in our own cultural history mark the centuries that passed between the 16th year of Ojin Tenno's reign (285 A.D.) when the Chinese art of writing was formally introduced into Japan and the year 604 when Prince Shotoku wrote his celebrated 17 article Constitution. It was still later that the first books of history were written—Kojiki in 712, Nihon Shoki in 720 and the immortal verses of Manyoshu began to be collected in 761.

English Language

National culture is different to a foreign language that may be picked up or learned by anyone with average intelligence. It is still less like money which every cowboy or office drudge may earn by using his limbs at little expenditure of brain power. It is a new growth, an original development, an intellectual flower that has never been seen before or elsewhere. Like a unique personality it is developed out of its inborn genius, nourished and stimulated by a propitious combination of native clime and inherited culture. None has accused America of the possession of an ideal government—an art yet to be discovered or devised. Republicanism has been often weighed in ancient and modern times and found wanting, and America today is putting her polity to another crucial test. Still less is America considered the wisest nation on earth, though her rulers seem to think their way of thinking and of life is the best that can be and therefore worth being imposed on the rest of mankind. We will now proceed to examine the nature and the depths of her national civilization as seen in her literature developed in the past two centuries.

Japan, in company with the other nations of Asia, which appeared rather late in the comity of the nations—a little after the middle of the nineteenth century—had to make up for lost time by picking up such bits of Western learning as she conveniently might from the culture of the Anglo-American race which at the time happened to command a position of supremacy in this part of the world. Young Japan of the Meiji era therefore paid greatest attention to the textbooks of civilization served in English and to English literature. Little wonder that the so-called "American branch" of English literature received its due—or more than its due—share of attention at the hands of Japanese students. English literature, by the way, was a comprehensive cultural channel; for many students read German, French, Italian, Belgian, Scandinavian, even Russian books in their English translations, and in fact some were known to have given more attention to French and Russian and other "foreign" books translated into English than to those originally written in English. Thus the part played by the English language in the cultural history of the modern world is not to be despised. Like the thievish crow which picks up seeds from one farm and scatters them over other parts, English has enriched itself by the pickings made from the Mediterranean and Continental cultures and broadcast itself over the world. There may arrive a time when it may be regarded as a convenient means by which to learn the cultures of all nations except its own: Shakespeare, Bacon and Sir Thomas Browne have begun already to be considered obsolete or difficult while many foreign authors little read in their own countries, may flourish for another generation or two, once they are "Englished."

American Golden Decade

The "American branch" of English literature, by virtue of its propinquity and readiness of access to Japanese students, was made the utmost use of as the best representative of "Western" or "European" culture. It was preferred sometimes even to the English, German or French; for one thing, the American teachers and missionaries then enjoyed a great numerical superiority in the foreign community of Japan, and they took care to discredit the Europeans in the eyes of the Japanese in order to balance accounts perhaps for the shocking way in which they were being abused in Europe.

Thus the "great" names in American literature became famous in Japan: Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) and Washington Irving (1783-1859) among earlier authors; Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-82), H. W. Longfellow (1807-82), Nathanial Hawthorne (1804-64), J. G. Whittier (1807-92), Edgar Allan Poe (1809-49) of the "golden decade" in the eighteenth century, and, among later authors, James Russell Lowell (1819-1891), Henry David Thoreau (1817-62), Walt Whitman (1819-92), and Artemus Ward (1833-67) and Mark Twain. These names became almost as well known among Japanese lovers of foreign literature as if they were authors of a kindred nation. Benjamin Franklin, for instance, became so popular through his "Autobiography" that a certain royal personage wrote a short poem entitled in Japan "Thirteen Qualities of Benjamin Franklin" which was sung all over Japan at one time.

These names, with a few more additions, may be said to constitute the sum total of American classics and they make not too formidable a list even at the highest valuation at which they may be accepted anywhere. Compare the "Indian summer" crop of American letters gathered in the "golden decade" with the harvest time that occurred in many another civilized country at different periods of its cultural life: the Elizabethan or Victorian era of England, or the literary age of the eighteenth century for Germany, France, or in Japan the age of Nara (eighth century) and Heian (eleventh century) or that of Yedo in the Genroku era of the early eighteenth century or that of Eleventh Shogun in early nineteenth century or even that of Meiji of half a century from 1868 onward. The comparison is not necessarily in the American favor. Then may be asked this crucial question: Are these American authors really American? The answer will be decidedly "No." They are Europeans or English—not only in their way of thinking or in their mental and emotional attitudes, but in their mode of expression. They "lacked native roots and fresh sap," to use the words of George Santayana, "because the American intellect itself lacked them. Their culture was not the inevitable flowering of a fresh experience." Besides, they made their names thanks chiefly to the European recognition or approval graciously or condescendingly granted them.

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